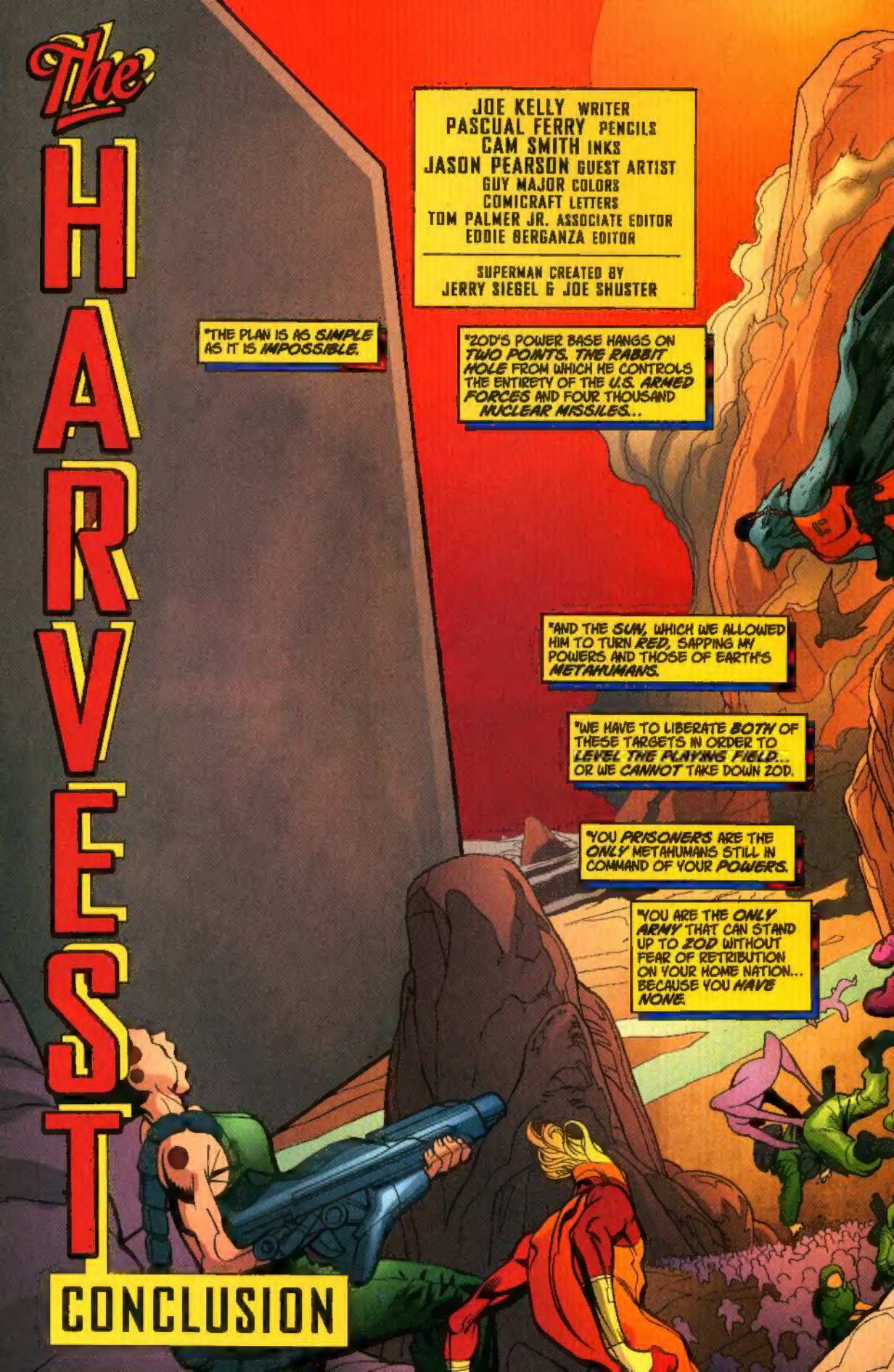
SUPERMAN
ACTION COMICS
805
SEP 03
KELLY
FERRY
PEARSON
SMITH
VICTORY?
DIRECT SALES
805511
$2.25 US $3.75 CAN
dccomics.com

A LITTLE ADVICE? YOU CANNOT PLAY FAIR WITH THIS MAN AND HOPE TO WIN THIS WAR.
I WAS CHEATING AND HE BEAT ME... AND I'M AN EXEMPLARY CHEAT.
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO END THIS. YOU ALREADY KNOW IT, OR YOU WOULDN'T BE DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
KILL HIM.

JUST GET ME BACK MY SUN, LEX.
I'LL DO WHAT I HAVE TO.


The HARVEST
CONCLUSION
JOE KELLY WRITER
PASCUAL FERRY PENCILS
CAM SMITH INKS
JASON PEARSON GUEST ARTIST
GUY MAJOR COLORS
COMICRAFT LETTERS
TOM PALMER JR. ASSOCIATE EDITOR
EDDIE BERGANZA EDITOR
SUPERMAN CREATED BY
JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
"THE PLAN IS AS SIMPLE AS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
"ZOD'S POWER BASE HANGS ON TWO POINTS. THE RABBIT HOLE FROM WHICH HE CONTROLS THE ENTIRETY OF THE U.S. ARMED FORCES AND FOUR THOUSAND NUCLEAR MISSILES...
"AND THE SUN, WHICH WE ALLOWED HIM TO TURN RED, SAPPING MY POWERS AND THOSE OF EARTH'S METAHUMANS.
"WE HAVE TO LIBERATE BOTH OF THESE TARGETS IN ORDER TO LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD... OR WE CANNOT TAKE DOWN ZOD.
"YOU PRISONERS ARE THE ONLY METAHUMANS STILL IN COMMAND OF YOUR POWERS.
"YOU ARE THE ONLY ARMY THAT CAN STAND UP TO ZOD WITHOUT FEAR OF RETRIBUTION ON YOUR HOME NATION... BECAUSE YOU HAVE NONE.

"I DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE CAPRICIOUS SACRIFICE OF LIFE... AND I AM ASKING YOU TO USE NON-LETHAL MEASURES WHEN YOU CAN...
"NO ONE WINS IN A WAR FOUGHT WITHOUT HONOR...
"...AND WE MUST WIN."
KELLY TERRY CAPT
03

ONCE WE ACCESS THE RABBIT HOLE, COLDCAST, CAN YOU JAM HARD WIRED COMMUNICATIONS?
EVEN ON A BAD DAY, SUPERMAN.
GOOD-- ARRRGH!
SCHRIT
NOW?
HIT ME.
DON'T HAVE MANY OF THESE LEFT IN ME, SUPERMAN... USE IT WELL.

THANK YOU. YOU'RE THE ONLY THING ALLOWING ME TO KEEP FIGHTING UNDER A RED SUN.
THANK YOURSELF. NEVER IMAGINED I COULD SIMULATE YELLOW SUNLIGHT WITH MY POWERS 'TIL YOU THOUGHT IT UP.
SEE HIM?
YEAH.
MAKE A PUSH FOR THE DOORS. IF YOU CAN BREACH THE PERIMETER, SCRAMBLE ALL TELECOM SO HE CAN'T LAUNCH ANYTHING.
WHILE YOU PLAY DECOY?
"NO.
"WHILE I PLAY SOLDIER."
WAIT! WAIT!
SAREW... ?
WE FOUND THIS... IN THE TRASH. HE WORE IT... WHEN HE WAS YOU.
IT'S FILTHY... BUT I THINK YOU SHOULD PUT IT BACK ON.

DON'T THEY REVIEW THE ALPHABET IN STRYKER'S?!
I SAID A-FORMATION! A-FORMATION, TAKE THE BLACKHAWKS!
I GOT A FEW LETTERS FOR YA, WHINY S.O.B. YOU BELLYACHE MORE'N MY LAST EX ABOUT HER RUST BURD.
ANYONE EVER TELL YOU TO "GO WITH THE FLOW"?
NO ONE WHO LIVED, METALLO.
NOW SHUT UP AND FLY. IF YOU BREAK CONCENTRATION AND DISASSEMBLE--

I CAN CHANGE THIS FORM, LUTHOR. NOW WORRY ABOUT THE REST.
S'GETTING PRETTY HOT OUT THERE. DUNNO IF OUR GUYS CAN CUT IT AGAINST ZOD'S PILOTS.
I DO NOT CARE IF THE REST LIVE OR DIE, SO LONG AS THEY LEAVE US AN OPENING TO TAKE OUT THE SOLAR CONVERTERS--
WHAT IS THAT?
MASTER. THE PRECIPICE IS HIGH AND THE WINDS ARE STILL STRONG, DESPITE YOUR CONFIDENT HAND ON MY SHOULDER...
BUT I SHALL NOT FAIL YOU. I GIVE YOU THE EARTH, GLADLY.
KRAKOOM
GYAAAHH

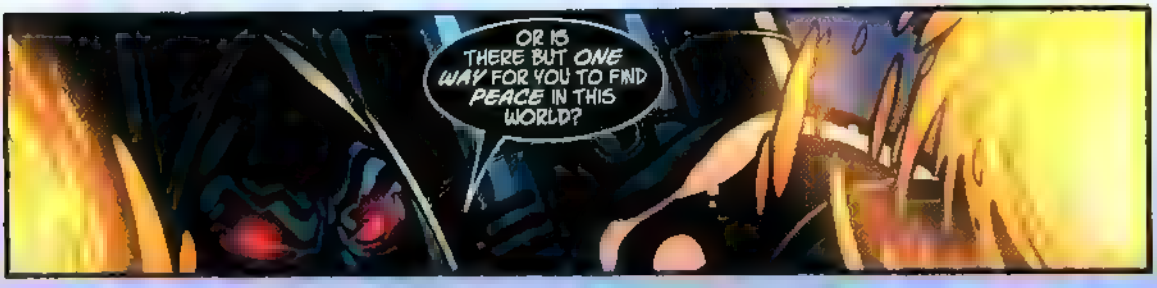
YOU SHOULD HAVE BURNED IN THE SUN. ALL YOU HAVE DONE...
...IS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO KILL YOU TWICE.
THIS HAS TO END, ZOD. NOW...
...BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO END IN DEATH.

HNNGH
OF COURSE IT DOES. IT ALWAYS DOES.
KABO
DAMN. WE BETTER CRACK THIS NUT QUICK OR THERE WON'T BE A BASE LEFT TO GET INTO.
FFFFF
I DIDN'T MAKE YOU, ZOD!
YOU CAN'T BLAME ME FOR CHOOSING THE PATH THAT BROUGHT YOU HERE!
KRCHHH

I EXIST BECAUSE YOU DID NOT DIE! BECAUSE YOU HAVE SQUANDERED THE GIFT OF LIFE!
SPLAM--!!!
HEY! DON'T YOU NEED TO SAVE THAT POWER FOR BLUE BOY? HE'S GETTING HIS BUTT KICKED!
HE HAS HIS JOB. WE HAVE OURS.
WE GET INSIDE.
THE WORLD IS UNITED UNDER MY FLAG. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE CAESAR, THE WORLD WILL FOLLOW ONE VOICE! ONE LEADER!
YOU COULD HAVE DONE THIS DECADES AGO!
INSTEAD, YOU WASTE YOUR POWER ON A HOPELESS MORAL STRUCTURE AND SPINELESS DOCTRINE!

CHOOOM
ASK YOURSELF AND ANSWER TRUE, BEFORE YOUR GODS AND THE SOULS OF THE DEAD WHO LAID THE ROAD YOU TREAD UPON -- YOUR PARENTS... YOUR KRYPTONIAN KINSMEN -- MY MOTHER AND FATHER!
HOW CAN YOUR LIFE HAVE BEEN WORTH ALL OF THEIRS... WHEN YOUR VERY EXISTENCE CREATED ME?

AND THUS... WE ARE *UNDONE*. FAORA, TELL HIM -- TELL HIM I TRIED, BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY, AND THE SUN IS SO *BIG*...
AN INDEFENSIBLE POSITION. WAS IT JUST *PRIDE*, MASTER..?


OR IS THERE BUT *ONE WAY* FOR YOU TO FIND *PEACE* IN THIS WORLD?

DOSE RED SUN BALLS'RE FIFTY PERCENT SHUT DOWN-- NUGH! SORRY-- I FEEL IT WHEN HE TAGS ONE OF THE SMALL ONES...
YOUR BRAINSTORM TO DIVVY ME UP INTO A THOUSAND DRONES PAID OFF. I CAN GET YOU THE SUN FROM ORANGE TO FULL-OR YELLOW IN SECONDS.

DON' IT TAKE TIME F'R THE LIGHT T' REACH EARTH?
EIGHT MINUTES, EIGHTEEN SECONDS... YES...
BUT THEY *MUST* BATTLE AS *EQUALS*... IT'S ESSENTIAL. THE TIMING IS *EVERYTHING*... WAIT FOR MY *MARK*.

I DIDN'T CREATE YOU, ZOD, BUT BY ALL THAT'S HOLY--
I WILL DESTROY YOU!
BLAMM
THE HELL WE ARE.
NOT UNLESS YOU DESTROY YOURSELF! WE ARE EQUAL PARTS OF THE WHOLE!
BROTHERS IN BLOOD!
LOOKIT THIS PLACE!
YOU KNOW WHAT WE COULD DO FROM HERE? THE DAMAGE WE COULD DO? LAUNCH EVERY NUKE IN THE U.S. ARSENAL --
YUP. I SURE DO.

GYAAAAH!
SLAMM
POOOMM
BLAMMMMMM
SHHH
KK
DO IT. OR I'LL KILL US ALL

CRACK

A FRACTION MORE PRESSURE, AND YOUR NECK WOULD HAVE SNAPPED. A FRACTION MORE..
BUT I WILL NOT DESTROY MYSELF TO TAKE YOU DOWN.
NOT LIKE YOU WOULD. WE MAY BE LINKED, IN WAYS NEITHER OF US UNDERSTANDS.
...BUT THAT ONE DIFFERENCE WILL ALWAYS SET US APART.
AND TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION...

...I'M NOT HAUNTED BY THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE ME... I'M HONORED BY THEM. MY LIFE'S WORK AWAS BEEN FOR THEM...
...AND THE WORLD IS BETTER FOR IT.
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
YOU WILL--
KNEEL BEFORE--
--
NO!

EIGHT MINUTES, EIGHTEEN SECONDS...
TIMING
ZOD? YOU--
WHY DIDN'T YOU STOPP YOU HAD TO SEE THE SUN TURN YELLOW AGAIN? THE IMPACT--
IT DIDN'T HAVE TO END LIKE THIS.
GCHHK
IT DOESN'T END.
YOU ARE STILL
WEARING MY FACE

DAILY DAILY PLANET PLANET

A Great Metropolitan Newspaper ★★★ Morning sun, low 50s ★★★ Wednesday, July 2, 2003

FREEDOM!

Full story by Lois Lane, page 2

I knew it was over when sunlight cut through the bars... and it was yellow.

There was no fight left in the Pokolistan army after the fall of Zod. While a handful clung to power, most simply laid down their arms and surrendered.

Those who didn't were swiftly dealt with by Superman, including my captors and Zod's right-hand woman, Faora.

With the world free from nuclear blackmail, all that remained was to restore the Metahuman population to normalcy.

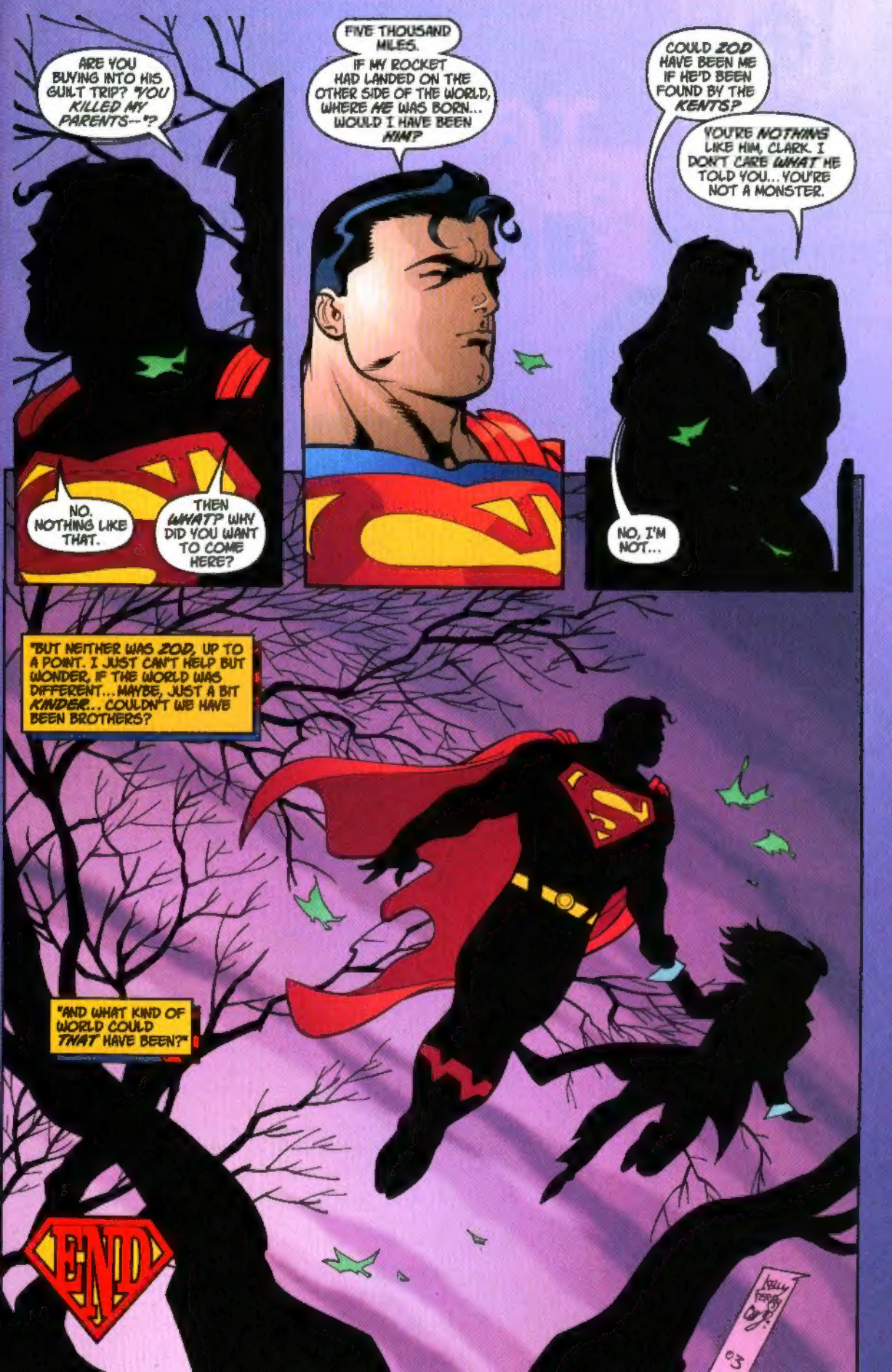
Antigens distilled from some samples of Faora's blood proved the key scientists needed to crack the Metavirus.

Metas left powerless by Zod's attack were restored to their former glory immediately to aid in the worldwide cleanup.

According to the CDC, the ongoing treatment of humans exposed to the Metavirus should conclude this month.

Perhaps one of the most intriguing events at the close of the conflict came via the Stryker's Inmates. Upon securing the most sensitive military installation in the United States arsenal...
This bloodthirsty gang of Superman's worst foes turned to the man who had drafted them for war, and surrendered without so much as a foul word.
ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE WITH THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM MEDAL—
YOU KNOW WHERE YOU CAN *PIN IT*, SIR.
COLDCAST... YOU *SURPRISED* ME, SON. OF THEM ALL, *YOU* HAD THE POWER TO *KILL* HIM. ONE *RED* SUN PUNCH INSTEAD OF YELLOW WOULD HAVE DONE IT. YOU MUST *KNOW THAT.*
AND THOUGH THE PROMISE OF A PRESIDENTIAL PARDON MAKES FOR GREAT P.R., NEITHER OF US IS THAT *NAIVE*... SO *WHY?*
HE TREATED US LIKE *MEN*. WE *ACTED* LIKE *MEN*.
On the other hand, the strike team led by our esteemed President lost both Mongul and Metallo to their escape plans.

Pokolistan's future as a nation seems dim. The United Nations has already begun entertaining resolutions to return lands annexed by Zod before the Imperiex War.
Despite their uncertain future, top officials in Zod's army returned his body to the bantam nation's capital and buried him with full regalia.
HE DID TRY TO KILL YOU.
NOT TO MENTION THE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE HE ACTUALLY DID KILL JUST TO GET TO KILLING YOU--
I KNOW, LOIS... I KNOW.


ARE YOU BUYING INTO HIS GUILT TRIP? "YOU KILLED MY PARENTS--"?
NO. NOTHING LIKE THAT.
THEN WHAT? WHY DID YOU WANT TO COME HERE?
FIVE THOUSAND MILES. IF MY ROCKET HAD LANDED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD, WHERE ME WAS BORN... WOULD I HAVE BEEN HIM?
COULD ZOD HAVE BEEN ME IF HE'D BEEN FOUND BY THE KENTS?
YOU'RE NOTHING LIKE HIM, CLARK. I DON'T CARE WHAT HE TOLD YOU... YOU'RE NOT A MONSTER.
NO, I'M NOT...
"BUT NEITHER WAS ZOD, UP TO A POINT. I JUST CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER, IF THE WORLD WAS DIFFERENT... MAYBE, JUST A BIT KINDER... COULDN'T WE HAVE BEEN BROTHERS?
"AND WHAT KIND OF WORLD COULD THAT HAVE BEEN?"
END
KELLY TERRY
03